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FOREIGN MISSIONS

AT THE
133d GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.



WINONA LAKE, INDIANA

May 19-26, 1921

The Board of Foreign Missions
and
The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
156 Fifth Avenue, New York

The 133rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. meeting in Winona Lake, Indiana, from May 19th to 26th inclusive, was predominantly an Assembly greatly interested in and sympathetic towards Foreign Missions.

MISSIONARIES IN ATTENDANCE

There were between forty and fifty furloughed missionaries in attendance, several of them sitting as commissioners and others as delegates from their missions. Nearly all of our missions were represented. The missionaries, officers and members of the Assembly's and Woman's Boards of Foreign Missions, and members of the Assembly's Standing Committee on Foreign Missions, joined in an informal Prayer Conference, which was held at Bethany Chapel on Sunday afternoon, May 22nd. The Rev. Hugh T. Kerr, D.D., pastor of the Shady-side Church of Pittsburgh, Pa., led the Conference and called on the missionaries present to state the needs of their missions, and then there followed a season of prayer for all our fields.

POPULAR MEETINGS

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions held its popular meeting in Westminster Chapel on Tuesday, May 24th, morning and afternoon. A number of furloughed missionaries spoke. Encouraging reports were brought regarding the cultivation of the home constituency, and an address was given by Secretary Robert E. Speer.

The regular popular meeting on Foreign Missions, which is an annual feature of the Assembly, was held on Wednesday evening, May 25th, and was largely attended by commissioners and visitors. The missionaries were assembled on the platform, and after being introduced by Secretary Robert E. Speer, one missionary from each mission spoke briefly. Following this presentation of the missionaries, there were four brief addresses by the Rev.

A. I. Good of West Africa, Mrs. Charles K. Roys, formerly of China and now General Secretary of the Woman's Board, Rev. Roy H. Brown of the Philippines, and the Rev. G. S. McCune of Chosen.

FOREIGN MISSIONS DAY

Thursday morning, May 26th, the Assembly devoted to the consideration of the work of the Foreign Boards. The Rev. Hugh K. Walker, D.D., Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions, presented the report and recommendations of the committee which were unanimously adopted by the Assembly and which will be found on another page of this leaflet. Addresses were then delivered by Secretary George T. Scott of the Assembly's Board and Miss Margaret E. Hodge, President of the Woman's Board. Following these addresses a memorial service was held in honor of Secretary, A. W. Halsey, Mr. Speer addressing the Assembly on Dr. Halsey's life and work.

REPORT OF THE CHOSEN COMMISSION

The Chosen Commission, appointed by the 132nd General Assembly at Philadelphia, May, 1920, presented to the Assembly at Winona Lake, Part 1 of its Report which had been adopted unanimously by the commission. This report was thereupon approved unanimously by the Assembly. Part 2 of the Report of the Chosen Commission has already been sent to the missions for their consideration.

CHINA FAMINE AND NEAR EAST RELIEF

The Assembly gave careful and sympathetic consideration to the presentation of famine conditions in China and to the continued need of contributions for Near East Relief. Strong resolutions were passed by the Assembly call-

ing upon the Church for gifts for these two needy causes. The commissioners themselves also contributed generously to these two funds.

INTERCHURCH AND NEW ERA DEBTS

On recommendation of the Executive Commission, the General Assembly provided for the balance of an underwriting of the Interchurch World Movement, amounting to approximately \$555,000 with accrued interest, and a balance of an underwriting of the New Era Movement amounting to approximately \$365,000 with accrued interest, making a total of approximately \$920,000 with accrued interest, which must be liquidated.

The recommendation of the Executive Commission which was adopted by the Assembly provided that the Moderator and Stated Clerk of the General Assembly be authorized, empowered and directed to make, execute and deliver in the name of and under the seal of the General Assembly, certificates of indebtedness not to exceed the sum of \$600,000 for a term of five years, bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum. These certificates of indebtedness to be subject to redemption in whole or in part at any interest period as the Executive Commission may determine and be declared to be authorized investments for the Boards and Agencies of the Church, to the repayment of which the good faith of the Church is pledged.

The recommendation further provided that the sum of \$350,000 shall be added to the total budget of \$12,000,000 already approved by the Executive Commission for the year 1921-22, and that the Executive Commission be directed to place in the budget for the years following 1921-22 a sum equal to 2% per annum of the total budget of all participating parties for the purpose of retiring certificates of indebtedness.

The recommendation further provided, in regard to the New Era debt, that the Executive Commission be directed to place in the budget for the year 1921-22, in addition to the amount already specified, the sum of \$150,000,

this amount to be used and appropriated to liquidate the New Era indebtedness, and in the years following 1921-22 a sum equal to 1% per annum of the total budget of all participating parties be added to the New Era budget for the purpose of liquidating the New Era indebtedness.

A special committee of the General Assembly consisting of representatives of the Boards and Agencies on the New Era Committee, was appointed and empowered to use all available agencies of the Church including the New Era Committee, to raise the amounts placed in the budget for 1921-22 as provided in the above resolutions.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

Adopted unanimously by the 133rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., May 26th, 1921.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions unanimously submits the following recommendations and resolutions:

1. That the Assembly approve the Minutes of the Board which the Committee has examined, and which are an impressive evidence of the magnitude and complexity of the Foreign Missionary work of our Church.

2. Having examined the report of the Treasurer which shows that there has been a total income of \$4,633,534.00, an increase of \$914,758.00 (approximately 25%) over last year; the gain from "living sources" being \$537,461.00—we recommend that the Assembly express its devout gratitude to God and its congratulations to the Church for this splendid achievement and that in view of the certificate of audit attached to the report of the Treasurer, the report be approved.

3. That the Assembly approve the election of the Rev. George T. Scott and the Rev. William P. Schell as Secretaries of the Board, Mr. Scott and Mr. Schell having already served as Assistant and Associate Secretaries for eight years.

4. That the following members of the Board whose terms of office expire with this meeting of the Assembly, be re-elected to serve for three years:

Rev. Cleland B. McAfee, D.D.,
Rev. Charles R. Erdman, D.D.,
Rev. William Y. Chapman, D.D.,
Rev. John Kelman, D.D.,
Rev. William P. Merrill, D.D.,
Rev. D. Morgan Richards,
Mr. W. P. Stevenson,
Mr. Scott Foster,
Mr. John L. Severance.

5. That the Assembly extend its hearty congratulations to the newly organized Woman's Board of Foreign Missions which entered upon its work January 1, 1921, as a union of the former six Woman's Boards, and which does its work as auxiliary to and in co-operation with the Assembly's Board of Foreign Missions. The Committee notes with pleasure and pride that in this year of transition the Woman's Board raised among the women of the Church the magnificent sum of \$1,144,855.31 for the Budget, not including annuities, legacies, and income from invested funds, and recommends also that the Assembly express to the Woman's Board its heartiest wishes for continued success in this Christ-like service to the women and children of all lands.

6. That the work of the Home Department be commended for its enlarged program for the promotion of the Church School of Missions, of Missionary Education in the Sunday Schools, and of the study of Missions by men and women in the Church; and second,

That the Assembly approve, as has been the custom for many years past, of setting the Sunday nearest Christmas, and Easter Sunday, for special offerings from the Sunday Schools for the work under the care of the Board of Foreign Missions, and that the Assembly urge all Sunday Schools to use the special Christmas and Easter programs issued by the Educational Department of the Board and to take part in the special offerings.

Your Committee rejoices that so many churches, Sunday Schools and individual donors are contributing to the support of particular Mission stations and of individual Missionaries with whom an informing and stimulating correspondence is conducted, and recommends that the Assembly commend to all our churches and other contributors this plan of giving to Foreign Missions.

7. That the Assembly call upon parents, pastors, and lay-workers to bring to the serious attention of the young people of our church the great appeal for life service in for-

oreign lands and that they keep in touch with the United Candidate Department of the Assembly's and Woman's Boards of Foreign Missions.

8. That the Assembly express its approval of the effort to impose just restrictions upon the exportation from the United States of opium, morphine and other harmful drugs to Mission fields and its hope that ways may be found to prevent any transfer of the outlawed liquor traffic from America to non-Christian lands.

9. That the Assembly learns with gratification of the post-war conference of the Board and of the Woman's Board and the Missionaries held at Princeton, June 19-27, 1920, and attended by 152 representatives of the church at home and of the Missions abroad, and of the proposals adopted by the conference looking toward the closest unity and the largest efficiency of the work, proposals which are now before the Missions and Boards for their consideration.

10. That the deputations which the Missions and Churches in India and Persia and in Africa have requested the Board to send to them for special conference be charged to bear to the churches and missions in these fields the affectionate greetings of the Assembly and to assure them of the prayer of the Church in America that the spirit of God may work through them to raise up in each of these lands a Christian Church and a Christian leadership which shall bear persuasive witness to the sufficiency and power of the Gospel.

11. That we note with grateful praise and appreciation the advance made by the West Africa Mission in taking over the Swiss and German Missions in Northern Cameroun and join our prayers with theirs for the success of this work. That we commend the work of the missionaries and native preachers and teachers in India who have so successfully carried forward their work in the face of great political and social unrest.

That we rejoice in the reports of the steady advance of the enlarging opportunities in Siam

and commend this work to the interest and prayers of the church at home, in order that increased support in re-inforcements and funds may enable the Board to occupy the field of Eastern Siam for which we are alone responsible, and which we have long neglected.

That we note with deep gratitude and joy the faithful devotion of our Missionaries and the native Christians in Persia and Syria. The Nestorian and Evangelical Churches of Western Persia have been decimated, deported and all but destroyed. Our church bears special responsibility for the succor of these bereft Christians now homeless in Mesopotamia and we, therefore, express our sympathy with these suffering people and our support of the Board in dealing with this difficult situation. We trust that the way may be found to answer the urgent call for missionary service in Mesopotamia in the great region between the Persia and Syria fields.

That we express our sincere sympathy with the Korean Church in the great tribulation through which it is still passing and commend the wisdom of our missionaries in maintaining strict neutrality upon all political matters involved. Together with all the better elements in the Japanese Government, we deplore the reign of terrorism which still exists in Korea and the unwarranted suspicion under which our missionaries have labored during the past year.

That we rejoice with the Korean Church in the great revivals that it has been having in spite of these terrible handicaps and not only express our admiration for the Christian spirit which they have shown in this time of great trial, but also pledge our moral and spiritual support to every movement that seeks to bring about a just and righteous settlement.

That in view of the unusual opportunity which exists for work among Orientals on the Pacific Coast, the Assembly urge the Board of Foreign Missions in co-operation with the churches of the Pacific Coast to put on as soon as possible a more extensive work for Orientals in that District.

12. Having received certain overtures from a number of Presbyteries calling attention to reports regarding irregular beliefs and teachings among some Foreign Missionaries and having heard all representatives of such Presbyteries as wished to appear before the Committee and having also carefully examined all the material before the Committee, your Committee is gratified to report that it finds nothing to disturb the confidence of the General Assembly in the Board of Foreign Missions and in the great body of its loyal Christian Missionaries. But for their own sakes as well as for the benefit of the Missionary enterprise of our Church, be it resolved that the Board of Foreign Missions be instructed to examine further into these reports and if necessary, to take such action as according to the Form of Government of the Presbyterian Church the conditions may demand.

Moreover, it recommends that the Presbyteries and Sessions which have the primary responsibility in the matter be enjoined and counseled in the ordaining and recommending of all men and women for Foreign Missionary work to exercise the greatest care so that the Missionary enterprise may be safeguarded and the Evangelical foundations of our Church be perpetuated.

13. That the Assembly record its gratitude to God for the hallowed lives of the men and women who during the past year have finished their work and entered into their reward:

Prof. John C. Ballagh, 45 years in Japan.

Mrs. Howard Campbell, 26 years in Siam.

Mrs. A. H. Ewing, 30 years in India.

Rev. L. D. Heminger, 17 years in West Africa.

Rev. Franklin E. Hoskins, D.D., 32 years in Syria.

Miss Bernice Hunting, 24 years in Syria.

Rev. William Jessup, D.D., 30 years in Syria.

Rev. J. B. Kalb, 37 years in Brazil.

Miss Hannah Kunkle, 9 years in China.

Rev. Charles Leaman, 47 years in China.

Dr. S. C. Peoples, 39 years in Siam.

Dr. Charles K. Roys, 16 years in China.

And, although, he, himself, would have disapproved any special mention of his name and would have asked that all our thought be given to those who for many years or few, served on the fields abroad, nevertheless, we believe it fitting that special record be made of the loss sustained by the Church in the death of Rev. A. Woodruff Halsey, D.D., for twenty-two years one of the Secretaries of the Board. With unmeasured devotion, he served the Missionary cause. By his unselfishness and loving kindness, he endeared himself to the entire church. With constant entreaty and appeal, he besought men to give themselves to Christ and to His world-wide service. In this one great purpose and passion, he lived and wrought and died. In memory of him and of his Master, we would consecrate ourselves anew to the great undertaking for which he and those who have fallen with him toiled, and we would call the Church to a fresh dedication to their purpose to make Jesus Christ known as Saviour and Lord to all the world.

14. That the Assembly hereby approve the Memorial Fund proposed by the Board and by the friends of Dr. Halsey to be provided by personal gifts from those who desire thus to honor his memory and to express their affection for him. The Fund to be used for suitable memorial objects in the three fields with which Dr. Halsey had a special relation,—Africa, Syria, and Mexico.

15. That the plan of the Board for Annuity Gifts on which the Board pays interest until the death of the donor when the principal of the Gift becomes available for the Foreign Mission cause, be heartily commended. Also, that all friends of the cause be urged to remember the Board in their wills.

(Signed) HUGH K. WALKER, Chairman,
J. RAMSEY SWAIN, Secretary.

Approved by the General Assembly this day,
May 26, 1921.